REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 are pending before this amendment. By the present amendment, claim 2 is <u>canceled</u> without prejudice; claims 1, 9, 11, and 15 are <u>amended</u>. No new matter has been added.

In the office action (page 2), the specification stands objected to under 35 U.S.C. §132(a) as introducing new matter into the disclosure.

Specifically:

(1) in the office action (page 2), the examiner objects to the amendments made to paragraph **[0063]** in the last filed amendment. The applicants have amended paragraph [0063] (see substitute specification) so that paragraph [0063] is the same as paragraph [0063] of the originally filed specification.

(2) In the office action (page 2), the examiner objects to the amendments made to paragraph **[0057]**. The applicants respectfully submit that support for the amendments made to paragraph [0057] in the previous amendment can be found at least in FIG. 4, which shows that the system includes a virtual private device 120 and a plurality of virtual bridge devices 100.

(3) In the office action (page 2), the examiner objects to the paragraph inserted between paragraph [0093] and [0094] (renumbered as **[0093.1]**. The applicants respectfully submit that support for the paragraph (paragraph [0093.1]) inserted between paragraphs [0093] and [0094] can be found at least in paragraph [0094] as

originally filed and FIG. 4. That is, the inserted paragraph was simply moved from

paragraph [0094] to between paragraphs [0093] and paragraph [0094], and "a plurality

of virtual private devices 120" has been amended to be "a virtual private device 120"

and "a virtual bridge device 100" has been amended to be "a plurality of virtual bridge

devices 100" according to and as is shown in Figure 4.

(4) In the office action (pages 2-3), the examiner objects to the paragraph placed

between paragraph [0159] and [0160] (renumbered as paragraph **[0159.1]**). The

applicants respectfully submit that support for the paragraph inserted between

paragraphs [0159] and [0160] ([0159.1]) can be found at least in paragraph [0160] and

Figure 4, similar to what is described above.

(5) In the office action (page 3), the examiner objects to the deletion of the term

"corresponding" from paragraphs **[0009], [0017], [0022], [0025], [0066], [0074], [0174],**

[0175], [0176] through [0179]. The applicants have amended paragraphs [0009],

[0017], [0022], [0025], [0066], [0074], [0174], [0175], [0176] through [0179] so that these

paragraphs are the same as the originally filed specification;

(6) In the office action (page 3), the examiner objects to the amendment to **FIG.**

4(F). The applicants have amended step 5 of Figure 4(F) so that FIG. 4(F) is as

originally filed.

Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C.

§132(a) objection.

In the office action (page 3), **claims 1-15** stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112,

¶2 as being indefinite.

The Examiner alleges that claims 1-15 are indefinite since "outputting the frames after processing to the same UNI is confusing since it is not clear why such processing need to be done in the first place" (office action (page 4). The applicants respectfully point out that the data processing and dispatching device can process data frames in two directions (i.e. from or to a processing device including the virtual bridge device, the virtual private device and the RPR device). Therefore, the applicants respectfully submit that this expression in claim 1 is clear and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In the office action (page 4), claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2 for omitting essential steps.

In response, the applicants have amended claim 1 to recite:

--finding a corresponding processing device according to the data type number via a data processing and dispatching device--

Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

In the office action (page 4), claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2 for being indefinate.

In response, the applicants have amended claim 1 by deleting the system structural features. The applicants respectfully submit that this removes the examiner's basis for rejection and therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In the office action (page 5), claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0176450 (Kong). The "et al." suffix is

omitted in a reference name.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

--A method for processing data in a digital transmission network, comprising:
    classifying the data frames by a virtual interface device;
    finding at least one of a virtual private device, a virtual bridge device and a resilient packet ring device according to a data type number inserted in the classified data frames via a data processing and dispatching device;
    transmitting, via the data processing and dispatching device, the classified data frames from the virtual interface device to the at least one of a virtual private device, a virtual bridge device and a resilient packet ring device for processing according to the data type number, wherein the data frames are transmitted from the data processing and dispatching device to the at least one of the virtual private device, the virtual bridge device and the resilient packet ring device via an inter-device interface configured therebetween;
    obtaining, by the virtual interface device, processed data frames via the data processing and dispatching device;
    finding a user-network interface (UNI) or a network-network interface (NNI) according to the data type number via a data processing and dispatching device and;
    outputting the processed data frames to the UNI or NNI.--

Support for the amendments made to claim 1 can be found in the previously presented

claim 2 (now cancelled without prejudice), and at least in paragraphs [0060], [0062],

[0066], [0099], [0123] and [0164].

The applicants respectfully submit that Kong does not teach or disclose the

present invention of claim 1.

Kong discloses SONET/SDH optical networks system and methods for

selectively carrying Ethernet signals by classifying the packets in Ethernet signals and

mapping the classified packets to virtual concatenation channels to provide different

COS to the clients. Therefore, it can be understood that the classification described in

Kong is for providing COS to the clients.

Further, as described in paragraphs [0060] and [0062] of Kong, only a mapping mechanism is disclosed. It is apparent to those skilled in the art that the mapping mechanism is implemented in a one-to-one fashion, which is only a function of a virtual private device. The mapping mechanism is regarded as prior art by this application, see paragraphs [0006] - [0007] and Fig.1 of this application.

In contradistinction, the present invention of claim 1, as amended, is directed to a method for processing data in a digital transmission network, in which a corresponding processing device is found **according to a data type number inserted in the classified data frames** via a data processing and dispatching device; the data frames are transmitted to the data processing and dispatching device **according to the data type number**; then transmitted to the at least one of a virtual private device, a virtual bridge device and a resilient packet ring device for processing **via an inter-device interface** which is configured between the data processing and dispatching device and the at least one of a virtual private device, a virtual bridge device and a resilient packet ring device; the data frames after being processed are output to the UNI or NNI which is found **according to the data type number**.

It should be understood that by amending claim 1 to recite --<u>a data type number inserted in the classified data frames</u>--, the data frames can be identified so as to be distributed to the at least one of a virtual private device, a virtual bridge device and a resilient packet ring device for processing, and can be sent back to the virtual interface device according to the data type number. Therefore, this application can process data frames in a one point-to-multipoint fashion or multipoint-to-multipoint fashion.

As described above, the newly added technical features of the amended claim 1 are not taught or disclosed by Kong. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that Kong does not anticipate the amended claim 1. An indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claim 1 is respectfully requested.
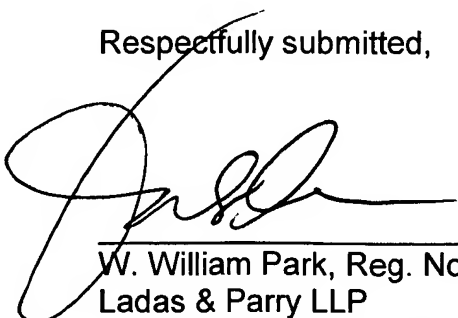
As to **claims 3-15**, the applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable at least since they depend from claim 1, which is now considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons above.

For the reasons set forth above, the applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 3-15, now pending in this application, are in condition for allowance over the cited references. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and earnestly solicit an indication of allowable subject matter.

This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the office action. Should the examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

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